

ARGYLL & BUTE COUNCIL MARINE SAFETY PLAN



Introduction

The Port Marine Safety Code (PMSC) sets out a national standard for every aspect of port marine safety. Its aim is to enhance safety for everyone who uses or works in the port marine environment.

Marine Safety Management System

Argyll & Bute Council achieves compliance with the PMSC through the implementation, compliance, review and monitoring of its Marine Safety Management System (MSMS). The MSMS is comprised of policies, manuals, procedures and reports that seek to enhance safety.

As required by the PMSC, Argyll & Bute Council publishes its Safety Plan for Marine Operations every three years. This plan covers the period 2024 to 2026 inclusive. It confirms Argyll & Bute Council's commitment to undertaking the proper management and regulation of marine operations within the scope of its powers and authority.

Argyll & Bute Council is a Statutory Harbour Authority (SHA) at 8 locations and marine asset owner at a further 28 facilities.

The SHA locations are:

1. Bruichladdich Pier, by virtue of the 'Islay Piers Order, 1904'.
2. Carradale Harbour, by virtue of the 'Pier and Harbour Orders Confirmation (No 3) Act, 1901'.
3. Campbeltown Harbour, by virtue of 'Campbeltown Harbour Acts and Orders 1846 to 2011'. In addition, the Council is also the Competent Harbour Authority in respect of Pilotage, under the requirements of the Pilotage Act 1987, at Campbeltown Harbour.
4. Craignure Harbour, by virtue of the 'Argyll County Council (Arinagour and Craignure Piers, etc) Order 1961'.
5. Dunoon Harbour, by virtue of 'The Pier and Harbour Orders Confirmation Acts 1895 to 1906'.
6. Oban North & South Pier, by virtue of the 'Oban Pier and Harbour Orders 1862 to 1988'.
7. Port Askaig, by virtue of the 'Port Askaig Acts and Order 1904 to 1975'.
8. Rothesay Harbour, by virtue of the 'Rothesay Harbour Acts and Orders 1831 to 1937'.

Policies

The Council, as Harbour Authority, recognises that it has a duty of care to those using its ports, harbours and piers; which means the Council has an obligation for safe and efficient use of its marine facilities.

To this end, Argyll & Bute Council's Harbour Board has approved a set of policies in support of the management and regulation of marine operations at our facilities which are embedded in the MSMS.

The policies are:

- Marine Conservancy & Hydrographic Policy;
- Navigational Safety, Pilotage & Towing Policy;
- Marine Training Policy;
- Enforcement Policy; and
- Moorings Policy.

Standing Objectives

The following 2024 – 2026 objectives support the ongoing improvement plan for Argyll & Bute Council Ports and Harbours.

This plan is owned by the Marine Operations Manager, on behalf of the Duty Holder, and aims to address high level improvement targets which will benefit all port and harbour locations and fulfil the requirement of the PMSC for the Duty Holder to maintain a 'Marine Safety Plan'.

2024 - 2026 Marine Safety Plan

Number	Provision / Activity	Objective	Measure	Year 1 - '24	Year 2 - '25	Year 3 - '26
1	Duty Holder	Duty Holders to have received training on their role and responsibility under the Code in the last three years	100% of Duty Holders trained	New Harbour Board Members to have training arranged		
		Duty Holders to have undertaken an operational tour of a Council Port or Harbour in the last three years	100% of Duty Holders undertaken an awareness tour	To be arranged with Members		
2	Designated Person	External Audit completed at one Port or Harbour per year	Annual	Due at Comletown & Caradale		
		Report to the Duty Holder at least once per year	Annual	Due at March Harbour Board		
3	Legislation	Review legal duties and powers at least once every three years	Three years	Due to review		
4	Duties and Powers	MAIB Reportable Incidents: make all reports to the MAIB within 24hrs, with investigation follow up	24hrs initial report, investigation sent at incident close	Due to review		
		Incident investigation: close out all incidents on MarNIS in accordance with defined procedures and closed out within an agreed timeframe.	Close out Incidents on according to nature and severity of Incident: 1 week for minor incidents and 1 month for more serious incidents that may involve other parties	Due to review		
5	Risk Assessment	All Marine Risk Assessments to be in- date	All Marine Risk Assessments to be reviewed in accordance with defined procedures	Due to review		
6	MSMS	The Marine Management Team will undertake a formal review and re-issue the marine policies on a three-yearly basis.	Three years	Policy review due		
		The Marine Safety Management System will be reviewed annually (or following any significant industry changes)	Annual	Due to review		
7	Review and Audit	Complete internal audits to the three-yearly schedule	Complete reviews and internal audits	Due to review		
8	Competence	Ensure staff with marine safety responsibilities are trained to undertake their duties	100% of mandatory training completed	To be published following checks		
9	Plan	Publish a three yearly 'Marine Safety Plan' (this plan)	Published and in-date	To be published following approval		
		Publish an assessment of the organisation's performance against the last period plan	Published review	Review due		
10	Conservancy	Aids to Navigation: Three-year performance meets or exceed IALA performance threshold	Cat 1 = 99.9% Cat 2 = 99.0% Cat 3 = 97.0%	Cat 1 = N/A, Cat 2 = 99.84%, Cat 3 = 100%	Report due	
		Hydrographic Survey set out in a survey plan	Surveys conducted to planned dates	Due to review		
		Hydrographic Survey publish within target timescale	Within one month of survey date	Due to review		